CLAIMS:

1. An imaging element comprising at least one imaging layer and a support, wherein said support comprises a layer having a surface roughness of at least 1.4 microns and at least one pit camouflaging flange layer between said support and said imaging layer.

2. The imaging element of claim 1 wherein said and wherein said imaging element has a surface roughness of less than 1.1 μm.

3. The imaging element of claim 1 wherein said layer having a surface roughness of at least 1.4 microns comprises a core layer.

4. The imaging element of claim 3 wherein said core layer comprises a closed cell foam core layer and wherein said closed cell foam core layer comprises a polymer that has been expanded through the use of a blowing agent.

5. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein said polymer comprises a homopolymer.

6. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein said foam core layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polystyrene, polyvinylchloride, thermoplastic polymers, polyurethanes, polyisocyanurates, their copolymers or their blends thereof.

7. The imaging element of Claim 4 wherein said foam core layer comprises polyolefin.

8. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein said foam core layer comprises polyethylene or polypropylene.

9. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein said blowing agent comprises a mechanical, chemical, or physical blowing agent.

10. The imaging element of claim 4 further comprising fillers.

11. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein the said foam core sheet has a stiffness of between 50 mN and 250 mN.

12. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein the said foam core sheet has a density of between 0.4 g/cm^3 and 0.9 g/cm^3.

13. The imaging element of claim 4 wherein the said foam core sheet has a matrix volume of between 40 and 70%.

14. The imaging element of claim 3 wherein said support comprises a flange sheet on a side of said core layer opposite said imaging layer.

15. The imaging element of claim 3 wherein said flange sheet on a side of said core layer opposite said imaging layer comprises paper.

16. The imaging element of claim 1 wherein said layer having a surface roughness of at least 1.4 micron comprises a surface roughness of from 1.4 to 4.5 microns.

17. The imaging element of Claim 1 wherein said flange layer comprises polyolefin polymer.

18. The imaging element of Claim 1 wherein said flange layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, polypropylene, or polystyrene, their blends or their copolymers.

19. The imaging element of claim 1 wherein the said flange layer comprises an oriented polymer layer.

20. The imaging element of claim 19 wherein said flange layer comprises a biaxially oriented polymer sheet.

21. The imaging element of Claim 1 further comprising an optical brightener in said flange layer.

22. The imaging element of claim 1 wherein the surface roughness of the flange layer on said foam core layer is greater than 1.2 microns surface average roughness.

23. The imaging element of Claim 1 wherein said at least one imaging layer comprises at least one photosensitive silver halide layer.

24. The imaging element of Claim 1 wherein said at least one imaging layer comprises an ink jet receiving layer.

25. The imaging element of Claim 1 wherein said at least one imaging layer comprises a thermal dye receiving layer.

26. The imaging element of Claim 1 further comprising a whitening agent.

27. The imaging element of claim 26 wherein said whitening agent comprises at least one inorganic compound.

28. The imaging element of Claim 27 wherein said inorganic compound is selected from the group consisting of TiO_2, $CaCO_3$, clay, and talc.

29. The imaging element of Claim 26 wherein said whitening agent is located said flange layer.

30. The imaging element of Claim 26 wherein said whitening agent is in said core layer.

31. The imaging element of claim 1 further comprising a core layer attached to a side of said layer having a surface roughness of at least 1.4 microns opposite said imaging layer.

32. A method of forming an imaging support comprising the steps of extruding a polymer layer onto a core layer, wherein said core layer comprises a surface roughness of at least 1.4 microns, and passing said extruded polymer layer on said core layer between at least two temperature controlled nip rollers, wherein one of said at least two temperature controlled nip rollers comprises a pit camouflaging surface.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein said core layer comprises a closed cell foam, wherein said closed cell foam core sheet comprises a polymer that has been expanded through the use of a blowing agent.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface has a matte surface having a surface roughness of greater than 1.2 mm.

35. The method of claim 32 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface comprises a surface peak to valley height of from 0.25 to 4.6 microns.

36. The method of claim 32 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface comprises a peak to valley height

in the range from 1.1 to 3.4 microns, wherein said peak to valley height varies in a range of spatial frequency from 10 to 10,000 microns.

37. The method of claim 32 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprises a temperature below the melting point of said extruded polymer layer.

38. The method of claim 32 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprises a temperature above the melting point of said extruded polymer layer.

39. The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of axially stretching said extruded polymer layer on said closed cell foam core sheet after passing through said at least two temperature controlled nip rollers.

40. The method of claim 32 wherein said extruded polymer layer comprises at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polystyrene, polyester, polyvinylchloride or other typical thermoplastic polymers, their copolymers or their blends thereof, or other polymeric systems like polyurethanes, and polyisocyanurates.

41. The method of claim 32 wherein said extruded polymer layer further contains at least one element selected from the group consisting of opacifying agents, whitening agents and tinting agents.

42. A method of forming an imaging support comprising the steps of extruding a polymer layer, passing said extruded polymer layer between at least two temperature controlled nip rollers, wherein one of said at least two temperature controlled nip rollers comprises a pit camouflaging surface, and laminating said polymer layer onto a core layer, wherein said core layer comprises a surface roughness of at least 1.4 microns.

43. The method of claim 42 wherein said core layer comprises a closed cell foam core layer, wherein said closed cell foam core layer comprises a polymer that has been expanded through the use of a blowing agent.

44. The method of claim 42 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface has a matte surface having a surface roughness of greater than 1.2 mm.

45. The method of claim 42 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface comprises a surface peak to valley height of from 0.25 to 4.6 microns.

46. The method of claim 42 wherein said temperature controlled nip roller comprising a pit camouflaging surface comprises a peak to valley height in the range from 1.1 to 3.4 microns, wherein said peak to valley height varies in a range of spatial frequency from 10 to 10,000 microns.